(c) whether any representations have been received from Andhra Pradesh in the last six months on road safety;

(d) if so, the details of such representations;

(e) the steps taken by Government on such petitions;

(f) whether any official from Delhi was asked to personally enquire into such representations on road safety; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (g) the suggestions and representations from social activists and people concerned with Road Safety are taken due note of. Necessary measures of Traffic Road Safety on all National Highways including National Highways in Andhra Pradesh are incorporated in the detailed project reports for the concerned highways. Senior officials from Delhi undertake field visits as and when required to ensure proper project preparation and thereafter smooth progress of works.

World Bank assistance for NHs in U.P. and Bihar

†1056. SHRI VIJAY SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether 51 crore dollars have been provided by the World Bank for the National Highways in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar;

(b) if so, whether the selection has been made in respect of National Highways in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar;

(c) if so, what are the details of the National Highways selected in respect of both the States; and

(d) by when Government propose to spend the entire amount on all these projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) World Bank has approved a loan of US $ 51.6 crores.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Certain stretches of NH 2 between Agra and Calcutta totaling to 477 Kms. are covered by these projects.

(d) The projects are targeted for completion by December 2003.

Performance of major ports

1057. SHRI ANANTA SETHI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have reviewed the performance of each major port;

(b) if so, the ports which are earning dividends since last three years and the ports which are sustaining losses;

(c) the reasons for losses; and

(d) the steps taken to improve the performance of each port?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) As the Port Trusts are not companies, the question of earning dividends does not arise. However, all the Major Port Trusts except Calcutta Port Trust (CPT) have earned operating surplus during the last three years. The reasons for losses in the case of CPT is huge expenditure involved on dredging channel.

(d) Constant efforts are being made by the management of CPT to attract more cargo to the Port and to reduce expenditure, wherever necessary.

Double laning of NH-17

1058. SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the total length of the NH-17 in Kerala and how many Kilometres of this length is developed into double lane and four lane;

(b) whether Government have any proposal to convert more length of NH-17 to double lane during the year; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?